

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OECD P 19533 281754Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

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TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: GOV'T PURCHASING: AGENDA FOR SEPT. 15 MEETING

SECRETARIAT HAS CIRCULATED EC COMMISSION AGENDA SUGGESTIONS FOR SEPT. 15 MEETING, WHICH ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. FIELD OF APPLICATION OF THE INSTRUMENT

(A) LISTS OF PURCHASING ENTITIES DIRECTLY SUBJECT TO THE INSTRUMENT

COMPOSITION OF THE LISTS - PROVISION FOR MODIFYING OR EXPANDING THE LISTS, ON A BASIS OF RECIPROCITY (COMPETENCE-PROCEDURES).

(B) DEROGATIONS

- DETERMINE WHICH COUNTRIES ATTACH VITAL IMPORTANCE TO SECURING DEROGATIONS - DEFINE THEIR SCOPE - EXAMPLE: PREFERENCES FOR SMBS, REGIONAL PREFERENCES.

- CONSIDER WHETHER SUCH DEROGATIONS ARE NECESSARY, BEARING IN MIND THE LEVEL AND LOCATION (IN PARAGRAPH 4) OF THE THRESHOLD.

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PAGE 02 OECD P 19533 281754Z

OTHER DEROGATIONS - EXAMPLES:

- BALANCE OF PAYMENTS CRISIS;
- RESERVING MARKETS FOR NATIONAL PRODUCTION IN THE CASE OF NASCENT INDUSTRIES, IN A DEVELOPING SIGNATORY COUNTRY FOR CERTAIN SPECIFIC SECTORS.

LIMITATION OVER TIME - SUPERVISION BY THE COMMITTEE OF SIGNATORY COUNTRIES.

2. MEMBERSHIP - WITHDRAWAL

- PROVISIONS TO BE INSERTED SO AS TO ENSURE THE INSTRUMENT IS AN OPEN ONE.
- ENTRY INTO EFFECT OF THE AGREEMENT AFTER RATIFICATION OF THE INSTRUMENT BY A MINIMUM NUMBER OF SIGNATORIES - PARTICIPATION OF KEY-COUNTRIES AN ESSENTIAL CONDITION.
- WHETHER OR NOT THERE SHOULD BE PROVISIONS REGARDING WITHDRAWAL BY SIGNATORIES. EFFECT OF THE WITHDRAWAL FROM THE AGREEMENT OF KEY-COUNTRIES - WHAT HAPPENS IF THE NUMBER OF SIGNATORIES FALLS BELOW THE MINIMUM NUMBER?

3. FUTURE STATISTICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE AGREEMENT

- FINALISING OF OBJECTIVES (PARAGRAPH 38).
- DEFINITION OF THE FRAMEWORK FOR ANNEX III (POSSIBLE CREATION OF A SUB-GROUP OF STATISTICAL EXPERTS).

4. SURVEILLANCE COMMITTEE

- COMPOSITION - POWERS - SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES.

5. TIMETABLE OF WORK

- EXAMINATION (IN CASE OF DEVELOPMENTS) OF THE SITUATION IN GATT REGARDING GOVERNMENT PURCHASING.

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